

## Message Text

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44/61

ACTION PM-03

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 ISO-00 CG-00 DOTE-00 EB-07 FAA-00

CIAE-00 INR-05 NSAE-00 RSC-01 DODE-00 /023 W

----- 104010

R 140403Z DEC 74

FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9136

CONFIDENTIAL MANILA 14721

E O 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, RP

SUBJ: LORAN A

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (FOR REFERENCE LINE)

REF: STATE 265418

1. ON RECEIPT REFTEL, LORAN A HANDOVER WAS DISCUSSED WITH EXEC.

SEC. MELCHOR, AND A BRIEF OUTLINING SUPPORT AND ASSISTANCE USG MIGHT BE ABLE PROVIDE AFTER PHIL CG TAKEOVER WAS GIVEN TO HIM. MELCHOR ASKED FOR CHANCE TO REVIEW MATTER WITH ADMIRAL RUIZ AND CG COMMANDANT OGBINAR BEFORE GIVING FINAL RESPONSE. AS RESULT THAT DISCUSSION, PHIL NAVY CHIEF OF STAFF CAPTAIN VELASCO REQUESTED APPOINTMENT AND CALLED ON CHARGE DEC. 13 TO EXPLAIN PHILIPPINE POSITION.

2. AT DIRECTION EXEC. SEC. MELCHOR, CAPTAIN VELASCO STATED THAT, NOTWITHSTANDING GOP DESIRE TO PROCEED WITH LORAN TAKEOVER, PHILIPPINE GOVERNMENT HAS CONCLUDED THAT IT WILL BE UNABLE TO DO SO BY DEC. 31. VELASCO SAID EMBASSY WOULD SHORTLY RECEIVE NOTE FROM DFA SETTING FORTH JUSTIFICATION FOR GOP POSITION. (FYI: VELASCO NOTED, HOWEVER, THAT FAILURE OF PHILIPPINE COAST GUARD TO PREPARE LOGISTICS SYSTEM TO SUPPORT LORAN STATIONS AND TO TRAIN ADEQUATE NUMBER OF TECHNICIANS TO TAKE CARE OF SYSTEM WAS BASIC JUSTIFICATION, END FYI.)

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3. CHARGE ASKED VELASCO WHAT PERIOD OF EXTENSION GOP BELIEVED

WOULD BE NECESSARY BEFORE LORAN SYSTEM COULD BE TAKEN OVER.  
VELASCO SAID HE WAS UNINFORMED BUT BELIEVED AT LEAST ONE YEAR  
WOULD BE NECESSARY; HOWEVER, HE RECOMMENDED THAT PHILIPPINE  
COAST GUARD EXPERTS AND LORTAD GET TOGETHER TO DEVELOP  
DEFINITIVE TIME TABLE FOR EVENTUAL TAKEOVER.

4. QUESTION OF FINANCES WERE NOT DISCUSSED IN MEETING, OTHER  
THAN VELASCO'S STATEMENT THAT GOP WISHED LORTAD TO CONTINUE ON  
SAME BASIS AS PRESENT. THIS QUESTION AND OTHER COINCIDENTAL  
WITH EXTENSION LORTAD WILL NEED TO BE CONSIDERED FURTHER IN  
PHILIPPINE COAST GUARD-LORTAD DISCUSSIONS OF QUESTIONS RAISED  
REFTEL.

5. COMMENT: PART OF PROBLEM WE EXPERIENCING WITH THIS  
PROPOSAL IS REFLECTION OF COMMUNICATIONS GAP IN GOP, PART IS  
OBVIOUS CASE OF COLD FEET ESPECIALLY AT POSSIBLE  
LOSS OF PRESENT MATERIEL AND TECHNICAL SUPPORT, BUT PART ALSO  
SEEMS ENTANGLED IN RECENT REASSERTION OF MOVE TO SEPARATE PHIL  
NAVY AND COAST GUARD COMMANDS. LATTER HAS MADE BOTH NAVY AND  
COAST GUARD WARY OF CHANGES IN LOGISTICS OR OTHER SOURCES OF  
SUPPORT. WE DO NOT THINK LATTER ISSUE CAN BE SETTLED IN TIME TO  
ENABLE IMPLEMENTATION OF LORAN A HANDOVER ANYTIME SOON UNLESS  
INTERESTED WASHINGTON ADDRESSEES ARE WILLING RISK PROTRACTED  
OUTAGE OF THIS EQUIPMENT. IF DEPENDABLE AND CONTINUOUS  
OPERATIONS ARE REQUIRED, SOMETHING AKIN TO PRESENT LORTAD  
SEEMS ADVISABLE FOR TIME BEING. WOULD APPRECIATE WASHINGTON  
COMMENTS. SCGOP CONCURS.

ARNOLD

NOTE BY OC/T: EA TAKE AS CORRECTED COPY, ALL OTHERS TAKE AS ORIGINAL.

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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** POLICIES, LORAN, NAVIGATIONAL AIDS, MILITARY BASES, NEGOTIATIONS  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 14 DEC 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** CunninFX  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
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**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** LORAN A C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (FOR REFERENCE LINE)  
**TAGS:** MARR, RP, US  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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